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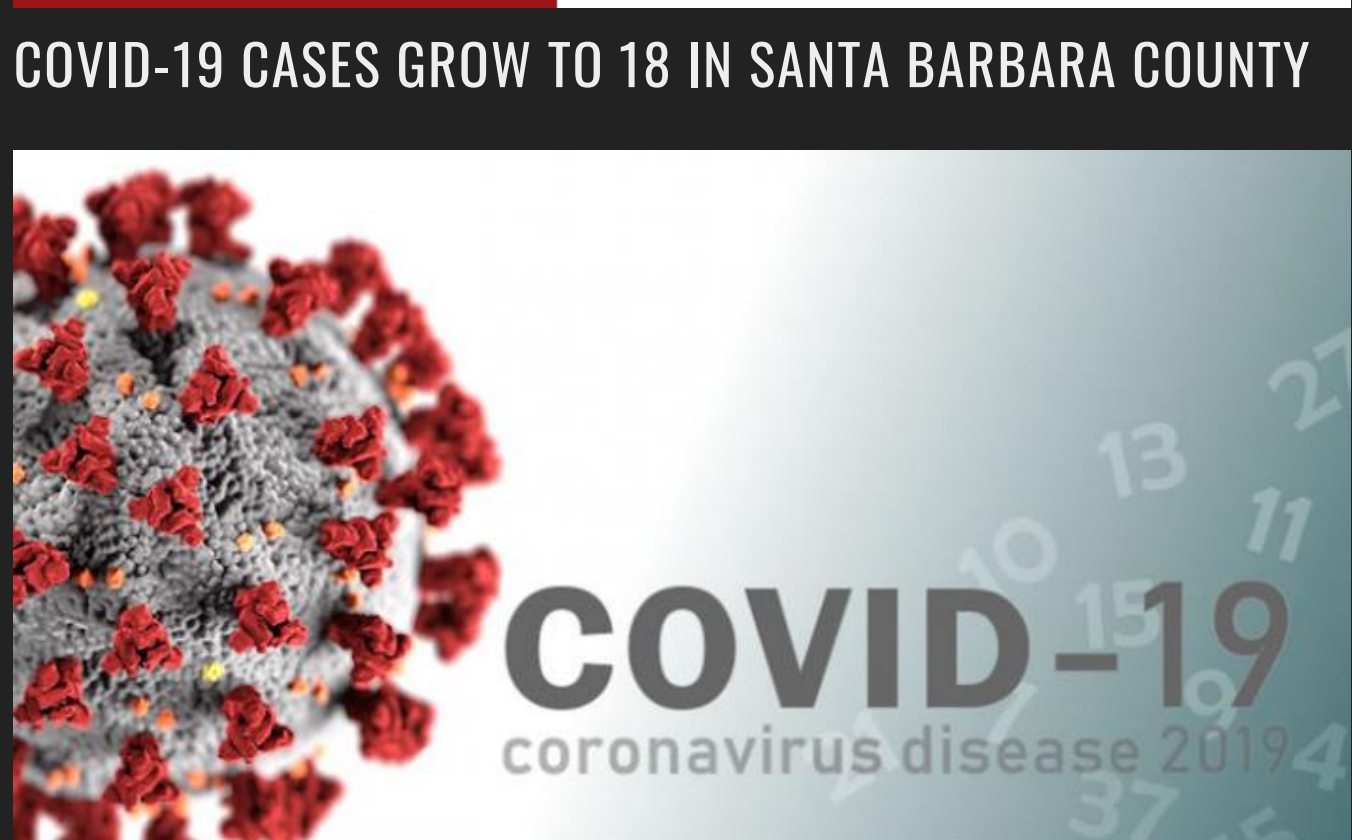
COVID-19 CASES GROW TO 18 IN SANTA BARBARA COUNTY



COVID-19 Cases Grow to 18 in Santa Barbara County

COVID-19 / MAR 22 2020 06:19 PM / BY EDHAT STAFF / 56 COMMENTS / READS 15679

Update by County of Santa Barbara
March 22, 2020

The Santa Barbara County Public Health Department (PHD) is confirming five (5) additional positive cases of COVID-19 in the county. This makes 18 total confirmed cases of COVID-19 in Santa Barbara County at this time.

Case #14—in their 50s and resides in North County
Case #15—in their 40s and resides in North County
Case #16—in their 20s and resides in South County
Case #17—in their 70s and resides in South County
Case #18—in their 20s and resides in South County

PHD is conducting a thorough investigation to determine how they contracted COVID-19 as well as identifying persons with whom they may have had close contact. Mandated social distancing measures are in place to slow the spread of the virus.

The Governor of California has also issued a Stay at Home Order, which is a critical step to reduce the spread of COVID-19 in our community. This is a socially transmitted illness, and we all have a role in stopping it from spreading. By working together to flatten the curve, we will help to prevent Santa Barbara County's healthcare systems from being overwhelmed, and reduce the possibility of casualties from the virus.

Source: County of Santa Barbara
March 21, 2020

The Santa Barbara County Public Health Department (PHD) is confirming four (4) more positive cases of COVID-19 in the county, this makes 13 total confirmed cases of COVID-19 in Santa Barbara County at this time.

- Case #10—in their 20s and resides in South County
- Case #11—in their 60s and resides in North County
- Case #12—in their 40s and resides in South County
- Case #13—in their 40s and resides in South County

VPHD is conducting a thorough investigation to determine how they contracted COVID-19 as well as identifying persons with whom they may have had close contact.

Mandated social distancing measures are in place to slow the spread of the virus. All large nonessential professional, social, and community gatherings should be postponed or cancelled, and smaller gatherings should be modified to allow for at least six feet of space between participants.

"We are urging our community to stay home when they are sick and practice consistent social distancing practices, shared Van Do-Reynoso, Public Health Director for Santa Barbara County. "It is critical that we all take the necessary steps to slow the spread of this illness in our community."

Community members are reminded to take measures to prevent the spread of respiratory illness:

- Wash your hands with soap and water
- Avoid touching your eyes, nose, or mouth with unwashed hands
- Avoid close contact with people who are sick
- Stay away from people if you become sick with respiratory symptoms like fever and cough
- Keep surfaces clean by wiping them down with a household disinfectant

[Español]

Stay Connected:

- County Public Health: www.PublicHealthSBC.org, Twitter and Facebook
- County of Santa Barbara: www.CountyofSB.org, Twitter, Facebook
- County Information Line: (833) 688-5551, 8 a.m.-5 p.m.
- 2-1-1 Call Center: Dial 211 or outside the area, call (800) 400-1572
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- Behavioral Wellness 24/7 Access Line: (888) 868-1649

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56 COMMENTS

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COOLIO MAR 23, 2020 09:16 AM

I think until you have law enforcement and National Guard out there enforcing social distancing you'll continue to see groups of people who just really don't care.

SHASTA GUY MAR 23, 2020 07:29 AM

It looks like SB is getting the message. Yesterday I took a walk past the Rose Garden to the Natural History Museum. First of all, it was lovely listening to the flow of Mission Creek. The Rose Garden was a lot less populated, and the vast majority were individual families or couples. I didn't see two different families letting their kids play together. Everyone walking kept a good 10' apart. There is hope, I hope.

SENIOR SALLY MAR 23, 2020 07:23 AM

Mesa Produce on Cliff Drive delivers fresh produce and eggs to those over 55 three times a week (M W F) for $10. Cash or check only. Call by 5:30 the night before 962-1645.

FREDERICK MAR 23, 2020 07:21 AM

I'd like to see California do what New Mexico is developing online. "Urban Health Vulnerability Index" https://covid.rs21.io/

A-1584983486 MAR 23, 2020 06:33 AM

A drive-through for fresh veggies and fruits, _just_ for senior citizens is needed.

A-1584983486 MAR 22, 2020 07:21 PM

It makes no sense not to list the cities where cases are. Ventura county does that. It is the same kind of logic this admin has been using to "pacify" the public. It does the opposite. The decision makers know no better than the rest of us how dangerous it is and the impact. Identify the cities!!

LUTRA MAR 23, 2020 09:52 AM

Yes, this happens a lot! After you hit Send, sometimes it will show your comment, other times it will not, but your comment actually *was* submitted. I've learned to hit Send just once, and if I don't see my comment, just reload the page to make it appear.

SIMPLYHUYEN MAR 23, 2020 09:33 AM

There is at least one verified case in Goleta, an ER staff at Cottage hospital.

SIMPLYHUYEN MAR 23, 2020 09:18 AM

There has been a positive case for a Goleta Cottage Hospital employee who works in the ER department. We have a friend who works in the same department who has been tested, awaiting results and in quarantine. It's in and has been in our backyard.

A-1584983486 MAR 22, 2020 11:16 PM

AVOID ALL PLACES. STAY HOME.

SACJON MAR 22, 2020 08:51 PM

If I knew it was in Goleta, for example, I would only shop for groceries in towns where there are no reported cases yet. What harm is there in giving us this information? Ventura is doing it, why not do us the same courtesy?

AHCHOOO MAR 22, 2020 07:57 PM

If you are using the analogy of wanting to know where the fire is spreading, the answer is right here, wherever you are. Assume it is all around you and behave accordingly. Once the sick people have symptoms, have been tested and received the results, they've been sick and contagious for a week or more. Don't panic, just follow the guidelines for keeping your distance, etc. Nothing else we can do about it yet.

A-1584983486 MAR 22, 2020 07:46 PM

It's a like there is a big fire spreading, but PHS doesn't want to tell you where it is. It is the information that lets people make some sense of the situation, to avoid the areas, to have some sort of control over the situation. Hiding it only causes more anxiety among the public because they have been in the dark so very long, for many things. The county health service did poorly on this. Not impressed at all.

A-1584983486 MAR 22, 2020 07:34 PM

It's in all the cities. Think about it this way. If there are this many cases reported in North and South county - then it is widespread. It is in the wild. There are probably 10 times the reported amount infected and spreading rapidly. It makes no difference what city each new case is in. Cottage Hospital in Santa Barbara has to take donations for COVID masks.

NICHOLAS MAR 22, 2020 02:31 PM

To the lady who needs help ordering groceries online: Look up Instacart.com and register for an account with them. Signing up is pretty easy, just follow the prompts. One you are signed up you can have orders delivered not only from Costco but also from Gelson's, Ralph's, Von's, Sprouts, Smart and Final, Albertson's, and CVS. Instacart is very busy and booking about 5 days in advance so it's worth ordering right away. Your order with each store is a separate delivery. You can't always get exactly what you want due to shortages but you can pick substitutions on the order form. The Instacart shoppers tend to be very helpful and some will call to let you know what they are and are not finding. Because of the shortages it is best to have several orders from different stores in place at the same time. They might be out of milk at one store but have tons of it at another so well worth ordering from several. You pay for each order by credit card where you can also add a tip for your shopper. There is a small delivery fee. You can, in the notes, ask for 'contactless delivery' which means they will ring your bell and leave your groceries on your doorstep if you prefer. Sometimes Instacart will not let you check out your cart as they are formulating delivery slots. If this happens just keep trying at various times and you will eventually get a slot and be able to check out. I am thinking of you and your friends and I hope this helps. If you have any questions or difficulties using the site post them here and I can advise.

SBPADDY MAR 22, 2020 04:47 PM

Thank you! Great information & much more than I knew!

SBLINDA MAR 22, 2020 01:57 PM

@10285, Please look here. Zoomers willing to shop for Boomers. This could be what you are looking for! https://www.zoomerstoboomers.com/?fbclid=IwAR3jRukpFSqblHS49t1IYFVgGIJGhRwor7ZKL0pF8YSXoh_vjN-vUdUVNTc

SHASTA GUY MAR 22, 2020 10:52 AM

Knowing the locations of the infected people does not matter. If they were unknown only contagious before their test, they likely infected a couple dozen more people who are now mingling around Goleta, Santa Barbara, Montecito, Carpinteria, and Summerland. THAT'S WHY YOU NEED TO STAY AT HOME AND SOCIALLY DISTANCE NOW AND GO OUT ONLY WHEN IT'S ABSOLUTELY NECESSARY! The virus is in our communities even though it does seem like it.

JAK MAR 23, 2020 08:17 AM

Shasta Guy, that kind of number contradicts most of the data out there from recognized authorities. On the other hand, see: https://www.statnews.com/2020/03/17/a-fiasco-in-the-making-as-the-coronavirus-pandemic-takes-hold-we-are-making-decisions-without-reliable-data/ For one of the best articles on Coronavirus spread that I have seen in three months. And from Stanford medical school researchers no less.

SHASTA GUY MAR 22, 2020 06:44 PM

That would be "unknowingly". Dang spelling autocorrect!

A-1584983486 MAR 22, 2020 05:04 PM

It's Rand Paul. It's always about him in his eyes and now he's getting a bit of push back in that a few of his Republican cronies are self quarantining and that's already putting Mitch in a serious bind when it comes to votes in the Senate. Tough! He might have to compromise for once in the past seven years or so.

KRUPPE MAR 22, 2020 11:07 AM

Meanwhile the senator from KY has picked up COVID19 "...due to extensive travel and events..." https://www.cnn.com/2020/03/22/politics/rand-paul-coronavirus/index.html Why the discrepancy in taking matters seriously in so many states? Look at Italy, it is a disaster out there.

A-1584983486 MAR 22, 2020 10:34 AM

How do we order from online Costco, when everything is out of stock online? I've heard from friends that the stores are stocked. I'm new at ordering anything online -- you guessed it, I'm old, late to the party, but need advice. Does it pay to order online at 2am, or is there some other way to get my order in? I'm going to try to figure out Target's online ordering system, and go there for pickup. Why doesn't Von's let us order and go to the store and they bring the groceries out to the car? I'm a senior citizen, don't go in stores at all now. All advice appreciated. Really, giving seniors early hours to line up like cattle, and grouped together, is no solution and is demeaning, and exposes us to coronavirus. It can be a physical struggle to stand in line, waiting. Where is the compassion. I fully intend to stay out of your way, and stay healthy and not use medical services. Focused support for all of us in this mess and are old, or infirm, and some respect thrown our way (not just words) would be extremely appreciated. I will share any info you give with my group of elderly friends who are also struggling at home We'll get by with a little help from our friends. (They were right.)

LUTRA MAR 23, 2020 12:59 AM

You don't have to pick up your order. It will be delivered to your home by an Instacart employee. If you place the order through the Costco website (instead of through the Instacart website), then the delivery fee is waived. But in both cases, the order will be delivered by an Instacart employee. As SBPADDY noted, available delivery times are currently about 5 days from the day you place the order.

A-1584983486 MAR 22, 2020 11:12 PM

Do you have to pick up your order at Costco?

SBPADDY MAR 22, 2020 11:54 AM

I placed on order with Costco online (Friday at 12:17 am) late in the evening last week. The order will be processed by Instacart and will arrive Wednesday, March 25th, between 1 and 2. Costco has a good name and I suspect I will receive the order. Give it a try and good luck!

D8VANILLA MAR 22, 2020 10:00 AM

Well, if everyone would stop hoarding all the toilet paper, I wouldn't have to leave my house! I wouldn't need to keep going back to the stores, over and over again, looking for toilet paper ! Yesterday, I was at Costco.... sold out, then I was at 2 different Smart & Final's, and they were also out. NO TP to be found. Gave up , but will try again

LUVADUCK MAR 23, 2020 09:12 AM

Can't help thinking: Are there this many people walking around who believe they are so (full of s***)that they need bales of t.p.?

MINIBEAST MAR 22, 2020 10:58 PM

D8VANILLA: Ralph's.

A-1584983486 MAR 22, 2020 07:52 PM

Yes! I'm afraid we are going to need government regulations to reduce hoarding. People, just stop it!

D8VANILLA MAR 22, 2020 09:54 AM

I totally agree with "SBMH2015 ". It would be good to know exactly where these cases live and have been in the last couple weeks. Then, I would know if I was more at risk. For example:::: If a case is up in Santa Maria / North County, which is over an hour away from Santa Barbara , 65 miles away, and since I have NOT been to Santa Maria, then I have less to worry about. But, if it's a case in Goleta, then I would be a little more worried, since I've been in Goleta, and maybe start scrubbing down everything again. I think it's, almost, critical to give out as much info as possible. WHY NOT give the exact location?????? Even giving out the name of the infected..... Then, we would know if we had been in contact with them, or in contact with someone that's been in contact with the infected person... >>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>> Do you get it now ????? Or, do I need to add more examples

SBLINDA MAR 22, 2020 01:54 PM

I agree with your point completely, @10285. I just want to say that the SD person who tested positive did not come to SB/Goleta/IV, but rather those 5 girls met up with him in SD and then came back here. A different scenario but just as likely to result in cases in SB/Goleta/IV! I wish people would restrict contact like they are supposed to!

A-1584983486 MAR 22, 2020 10:16 AM

I hate to tell you just b/c YOU didn't go to Santa Maria doesn' t mean the person up there wasn't in Goleta - or anyone else for that matter. The girls at UCSB who were quarantined were in contact with someone from SAN DIEGO who was here and later tested positive. LIterally - you cannot know for sure because people move around. There could have been people who came back to SB after a trip to China, or even Europe and are shopping in the same stores you are.

A-1584983486 MAR 22, 2020 09:36 AM

So I've seen some posts intended to panic and horrify people by describing cases of this virus (which may or may not be true, could be click bait drama). . Right now, there is no sense in this because the fact is over 80% of those who get this will be fine. Instead of panicking people - as when ppl are panicked they make bad decisions - let's instead focus on getting the word out to STAY HOME as others are vulnerable and it's part of our social contract. Please stop posting gruesome [and possibly fake] stories about medical descriptions. It is serving no good and will lead to civil unrest as ppl panic over that.

AHCHOOO MAR 22, 2020 07:51 PM

Twenty percent of people getting really sick is a whole lot of people. People you know. Your friends. Your coworkers. You.

SBMH2015 MAR 22, 2020 08:59 AM

SBC Health. Please give the cities where the cases are located. Why just north and south county ?

SHASTA GUY MAR 22, 2020 07:36 AM

I was thinking Earl Warren would be used as a field hospital if things went south here. Perhaps if it houses the homeless then it will become their field hospital.

A-1584983486 MAR 22, 2020 09:28 AM

And so doctors and nurses pulled away from the regular hospital thus further burdening the system?

A-1584983486 MAR 22, 2020 07:30 AM

Just read they are opening Earl Warren to the homeless this week. I hope all the residents near there will be protected. The authorities need to have close monitoring of the homeless when they leave. They are going to feed them and let them shower and then what? They go back to panhandling and then into the encampments? I can just see all the new encampments that will be created near Las Positas. Better to sequester them on the property and keep them there for the duration. If I have to stay in my home, they should be forced to remain at Earl Warren and not be out in the general public and violating the 6 ft. rule as they panhandle and look for toilets. Better to put them up at the old Sears where they could be confined.

A-1584983486 MAR 22, 2020 09:41 PM

@7:30 am The homeless are already living all around that area. Probably more than any other part of town now.

SBMH2015 MAR 22, 2020 08:58 AM

Can you please give link to this information or sight your source ? I would like to read about it

LOOSECANNON MAR 22, 2020 08:50 AM

Prepare for increased homelessness and civil unrest if the present lockdown is still in place a month from now. We need selective quarantining of the sick and elderly; the rest of us should practice good hygiene and social distancing. It is not sustainable to keep all businesses closed. People are losing their jobs. The self-employed have no access to unemployment benefits. The freeze on evictions won't last forever and is likely ineffective in the case of people who sublease or have no lease at all.

LNOFAN MAR 22, 2020 06:10 AM

https://twitter.com/aslavitt/status/1241583531488403457?s=21 Look at the chart. Stay home, it's our only hope.

LNOFAN MAR 22, 2020 06:09 AM

Stay Home!!

A-1584983486 MAR 22, 2020 12:57 AM

Why does it matter where the confirmed cases exactly are ? Eastside, Westside, up north, downtown. People move around, travel, etc. Just because the person lives in a certain place doesn't mean they didn't spread it elsewhere. Assume this virus is everywhere and act accordingly. Telling ppl where they are exactly is not only an invasion of medical privacy rights but may breed complacence [oh Montecito is safe because there's no confirmed case - except someone from downtown may have shopped in Montecito or even visited or worked there]

JFC723 MAR 21, 2020 11:32 PM

I believe they have to more specific on the location of positive cases. People need to be aware. Stop hiding the info.

JQB MAR 21, 2020 11:10 PM

The importance of massive testing: https://medium.com/@yishan/free-widespread-testing-is-the-only-way-america-goes-back-to-normal-952ee9201dd

A-1584983486 MAR 21, 2020 09:45 PM

JQB Yes they could have been preventable but it wasn't. So now we have to choose which is more critical. Protecting those on the front lines is more important than testing the entire population. We need to assume everyone has it and stay home as much as possible.

JQB MAR 21, 2020 02:44 PM

Also see https://www.wired.com/story/coronavirus-interview-larry-brilliant-smallpox-epidemiologist/ " maybe most important, we begin to see large numbers of people—in particular nurses, home health care providers, doctors, policemen, firemen, and teachers who have had the disease—are immune, not infectious any longer. And we have tested them to know that they are not infectious any longer. And we have a system that identifies them, either a concert wristband or a card with their photograph and some kind of a stamp on it. Then we can be comfortable sending our children back to school, because we know the teacher is not infectious."

JQB MAR 22, 2020 02:05 PM

"The problem is not the lack of tests" -- Of course it is ... read the article, and see how things have gone in places like Taiwan and Singapore. "it's the lack of PPE for health care professionals" -- that's *also* a huge problem. Both of these problems could have been prevented.

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